WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A pure polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 65% identical

2   to SEQ ID NO:2 or 4, wherein the polypeptide, once over-expressed in a cell, accelerates

3   G_2/M progression and promotes cell survival.

1   2.   The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence is at least 70%

2   identical to SEQ ID NO:4.

1   3.   The polypeptide of claim 2, wherein the amino acid sequence is at least 80%

2   identical to SEQ ID NO:4.

1   4.   The polypeptide of claim 3, wherein the amino acid sequence is at least 90%

2   identical to SEQ ID NO:4.

1   5.   The polypeptide of claim 4, wherein the amino acid sequence is SEQ ID

2   NO:4.

1   6.   An isolated nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 1, or a

2   complementary sequence thereof.

1   7.   An isolated nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 2, or a

2   complementary sequence thereof.

1   8.   An isolated nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 3, or a

2   complementary sequence thereof.

1   9.   An isolated nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 4, or a

2   complementary sequence thereof.

1   10.   An isolated nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 5, or a

2   complementary sequence thereof.

1   11.   An antibody which selectively binds to the polypeptide of claim 1.

1   12.   An antibody which selectively binds to the polypeptide of claim 2.

1   13.   An antibody which selectively binds to the polypeptide of claim 3.

1   14.   An antibody which selectively binds to the polypeptide of claim 4.

1   15.   An antibody which selectively binds to the polypeptide of claim 5.

1   16.   An isolated nucleic acid that hybridizes under high stringency conditions to
2   SEQ ID NO:1 or 3, or a complementary sequence thereof.

1   17.   A method of expressing a transcript in a cell, the method comprising:
2   introducing a vector into a cell, the vector containing a nucleic acid encoding a
3   transcript; and
4   expressing the transcript in the cell;
5   wherein the transcript hybridizes under high stringency conditions to SEQ ID NO:1
6   or 3, or a complementary sequence thereof.

1   18.   The method of claim 17, wherein the transcript encodes the polypeptide of
2   claim 1.

1   19.   A method of determining whether a patient has a cell proliferation disorder,

2   the method comprising:

3   providing a test sample from a patient suspected of having a cell proliferation

4   disorder, and

5   detecting hepatoma-up-regulated protein gene expression in the test sample,

6   wherein a level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein gene expression in the test sample

7   different from a level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein gene expression in a control sample

8   from a normal person indicates that the patient has a cell proliferation disorder.

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10   20.   The method of claim 19, wherein the level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein

11   gene expression in the test sample is higher than the level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein

12   gene expression in the control sample.

1   21.   The method of claim 20, wherein the cell proliferation disorder is a cancer.

1   22.   The method of claim 21, wherein the cancer is hepatocellular carcinoma or

2   cervical carcinoma.

1   23.   The method of claim 19, wherein the level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein

2   gene expression in the test sample is lower than the level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein

3   gene expression in the control sample.

1   24.   A method of identifying a candidate compound useful for treating a cell

2   proliferation disorder, the method comprising detecting hepatoma-up-regulated protein gene

3   expression in the presence of a test compound, wherein a level of hepatoma-up-regulated

4   protein gene expression in the presence of the test compound different from a level of

5   hepatoma-up-regulated protein gene expression in the absence of the test compound indicates

6   that the test compound is a candidate useful for treating a cell proliferation disorder.

1   25.   The method of claim 24, wherein the level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein

2   gene expression in the presence of the test compound is lower than the level of hepatoma-up-

3   regulated protein gene expression in the absence of the test compound.

1   26.   The method of claim 25, wherein the cell proliferation disorder is a cancer.

1   27.   The method of claim 26, wherein the cancer is hepatocellular carcinoma or

2   cervical carcinoma.

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1   28.   The method of claim 24, wherein the level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein

2   gene expression in the presence of the test compound is higher than the level of hepatoma-

3   up-regulated protein gene expression in the absence of the test compound.